



C O N G R E S S W O M A N
KIRKPATRICK
★ ARIZONA'S 2ND DISTRICT ★

Contact a Caseworker

*COVID-19 Vaccine Sign
Up*

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Dear Friend,

Welcome to this week's newsletter! During the past two Committee Work Weeks, my team and I were busy with meetings, important votes, and more.

Keep reading for more highlights!

Legislative Updates

Letters I sent:

- Letter to Speaker Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Schumer urging Congressional Leaders to include significant housing investments in the Build Back Better act.
- Letter to President Biden and Speaker Pelosi from the House Agriculture Democrats highlighting the critical investments that were included in the Committee's portion of the Build Back Better act, and asking that they not be placed on the chopping block as changes to the bill are discussed.

Legislation I cosponsored:

- [**Indigenous Peoples' Day Act.**](#) This bill would replace the term Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day in federal laws and regulations.
- [**Delivering Envelopes Judiciously On-time Year-round \(DEJOY\) Act.**](#) This bill would require first-class mail to revert to service standards as of January 1, 2021. USPS has recently announced its intent to reduce these standards.
- [**Improving Access to Nutrition Act of 2021.**](#) This bill would repeal a USDA rule created in 2019 that disqualifies able-bodied adults for eligibility to participate in the SNAP program. The rule sets a work requirement and sets a barrier to food that studies have shown to be ineffective in helping people get out of poverty.
- [**Filer Voter Act.**](#) This bill would require tax return preparers who prepare at least 100 individual tax returns in a taxable year to provide voter registration application forms to their customers. The form must be made available by displaying copies of the form in the preparer's office for customers who receive in-person services and providing a hyperlink to the form for customers who receive online services.
- [**United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act.**](#) This bill would award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Ranger Battalions who participated in some of the most important battles of WWII. 7,000 Rangers served in WWII and 20 are still alive today. Ranger Battalions participated in D-Day landings, leading the way on Omaha Beach; led the Sicily campaign, operations in the Philippines that liberated more than 500 POWs, and many others.
- [**Prevent All Soring Tactics \(PAST\) Act.**](#) This bill would protect Tennessee Walking Horses and related breeds from soring, which is the intentional infliction of pain on horses' feet and legs using caustic chemicals, chains, weighted shoes, hard objects, cutting, and other gruesome techniques to force

them to perform a pain-based artificially high-stepping gait known as the "Big Lick."

- [**Old Pascua Community Land Acquisition Act.**](#) This bill would take land located in the community of Old Pascua, owned by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, into trust for the benefit of the Tribe.
- [**Prohibition of Medicaid Funding for Conversion Therapy Act.**](#) This bill would prevent state Medicaid programs from allowing funds to be used for conversion therapy.
- [**Fire Fighters and EMS Employer-Employee Cooperation Act.**](#) This bill would protect the rights of firefighters and EMS personnel to form a union, collectively bargain, and utilize a dispute resolution mechanism when disputes arise. This legislation does not permit strikes by these first responders, does not interfere with state right-to-work laws, and does not interfere with existing collective bargaining agreements that may already be in place in a state.
- [**Streamlining Nutrition Assistance Paperwork Act.**](#) This bill would make permanent a flexibility set up by the USDA during the pandemic that will help reduce a layer of bureaucracy surrounding Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applications.

Key votes:

- **Yea-** A short-term debt limit increase to prevent an economic catastrophe.

Noteworthy Meetings

- My team hosted a weekly call with southern Arizona leaders, humanitarian groups, and federal agencies to discuss how we can organize and help Afghan refugees coming to Arizona.
- My staff attended the Military Affairs Committee (MAC) luncheon which was a special opportunity for the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce members, the public, and military personnel to meet and recognize the best of the best at Ft.

Huachuca. Our office provided Special Congressional Recognition Certificates to the awardees.

- Our team also attended the Arizona G&T Cooperatives 2021 Annual Meeting at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Ft Huachuca's 50th-year celebration, the Women's Army Corps Veteran's Association-Army Women United's monthly chapter meeting, and more!



Spring Internships

Do you know a student who is interested in an enriching, exciting Congressional internship? Applications to intern in my District and DC offices this Spring are now open. We will accept applications through November 1, 2021. Apply [here](#).

2021 Congressional App Challenge (CAC) Underway!

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives are sponsoring this event to recognize and encourage students to learn how to code and create their own applications. This challenge highlights the value of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) disciplines and education. All middle and high school students in AZ-02 are eligible to participate.

I am excited to sponsor the Congressional Art Competition this year, and I encourage students and schools across AZ-02 to participate.

A district winner will be chosen by a panel of local judges, and the winner will be featured on CongressionalAppChallenge.us and will also be put on display in the U.S. Capitol. Learn more [here](#).

District Updates

Child Tax Credit

The American Rescue Plan expanded the Child Tax Credit to up to \$3,600 per child for children ages 0 to 5 and \$3,000 per child for children ages 6 to 17. The Plan also authorized advance monthly payments of the Child Tax Credit which began in July and will run through December! Qualifying families can get up to \$300 a month per child for children ages 0 to 5 and \$250 a month per child for children ages 6 to 17.

Families are able to determine their eligibility, check the status of their payments, and more at IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021.

Military Academy Nominations

Members of Congress may nominate candidates for appointment to four of the five U.S. service academies. I may nominate up to ten individuals for each vacant academy slot allotted to our district. To request a Military Academy Nomination from our office, please [complete the form on my website](#) by November 1st. Best wishes to you as you pursue your goal of attending one of the U.S. Service Academies and serving our country!

Grant Announcements

Congratulations to the following grant awardees
in Southern Arizona!

- ★ Our Family Services
- ★ University of Arizona
- ★ Child & Family Resources
- ★ Pima Prevention Partnership
- ★ Intermountain Centers for Human Development
- ★ Pasqua Yaqui Tribe



If you would like to talk with our Grants Director, Sierra Yamanaka, please contact her at Sierra.Yamanaka@mail.house.gov.

Vaccine Appointments & News

On Wednesday, we had our weekly AZ-02 COVID Task Force call. About 61% of Arizona adults are fully vaccinated. The vaccine is the most important public health priority to reduce transmission and severe illness. Most recently, the FDA advisory panel on vaccines recommended Pfizer booster shots for individuals 65 and up and those at high risk. The CDC Director added those at high risk of occupational exposure to this recommendation as well.

PIMA COUNTY

Sign up for a vaccine in Pima County by clicking [here](#).

Pima County Help Lines: Contact help from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week, at 520-222-0119 for TCC/TMC. For help with Banner Appointments call (833) 509-0908. For help with registering for the Arizona Health Department vaccination center at the University of Arizona 1 (844) 542-8201.

COCHISE COUNTY

To register for an appointment, click [here](#). Other locations in Cochise County can be found here. For those without internet or

those having technology issues, call the ADHS Help line, (602) 542-1000 or (844) 542-8201.

If you encounter problems with the Arizona Department of Health Services website, or do not have internet access, please call one of these numbers for assistance:

ADHS hotline - (602) 542-1000
Additional hotline - 844-542-8201
COVID Hotline - Dial 2-1-1

Constituent Services Update

My team is still holding daily virtual office hours Monday - Thursday!
Register [here](#) ahead of time.

Need help navigating a federal agency?

VIRTUAL CASEWORK OFFICE HOURS



Monday - Thursday
Registration Required

Do you need help navigating a federal agency? Please don't hesitate to reach out to my team by clicking [here](#).

Casework Success Stories!

- A constituent reached out to our office in September very frustrated with not being able to recoup Post 9/11 funds to

continue his education after the school he originally attended closed down and he had to redo most of those courses due to them not transferring. The constituent had been paying out of pocket to continue his education for over a year and it was taking a toll financially. After our office sent an inquiry to the Veteran Affairs Education Benefits Liaison the constituent was contacted and informed that due to changes within the 9/11 program, he had been reinstated with 36 months of Post 9/11 benefits.

- We submitted a congressional inquiry to the SSI for a constituent who has been fighting SSI benefits for his disabled son for the last 3 years. We were able to recover \$15,766 for our constituent.
- If you are having trouble with Passport Services, please reach out to our office. The casework team has been able to help multiple constituents get updates on their applications and in many cases receive their passports back in time for their upcoming travel.

Please remember that while my office is physically closed due to COVID-19, we are still here to serve you. Don't hesitate to reach out! Visit my [website](#) for more information on casework, send me an [email](#), and follow me on [social media](#)! I love hearing from you.

Thanks for reading the newsletter. Stay healthy, keep wearing masks in large public places, & get vaccinated (or your booster if you can)!

Best,

Ann Kirkpatrick

Member of Congress

Mr Kildpatrick

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